

Earth Day, April 22, 2004

Dear Agency Head:

I hope you will feel a sense of pride and accomplishment as you review this Indiana Greening the Government 2001-2003 Activity Report. These successes were made possible by the dedication and hard work of state employees who improved the environmental performance of state operations, increased efficiency, and in many cases saved money. The report also includes recommendations for the future. Highlights include:



- The Greening the Government Website at [www.IN.gov/greening](http://www.IN.gov/greening) provided a vast selection of program information and printer-ready tools to keep Greening EASY.
- The establishment of "Green Rooms" within many state facilities has created an infrastructure to conveniently reuse gently-used office supplies within and between agencies.
- The State government recycling program operating within Marion County continues to divert over 1,000 tons per year of recyclable materials from disposal facilities. Up to \$47,000 in annual avoided disposal fees have been realized as a result of state facilities participating in this program. The Departments of Correction and Transportation also have excellent in-house programs.
- Money earned from the State Government Recycling Program in Marion County helped to fund eight new Greening projects within various state agencies.
- The recovery rate for used beverage containers recycled at the Indiana State Fair increased to 40% in 2003. A record-breaking 878,000 people attended the 2003 Fair!
- The State of Indiana's yearly purchase of recycled-content commodities increased from 11% in FY 99-01 to a high of 47% in FY 02-03. The State also purchases energy-efficient equipment.
- Two major State health-care facilities are under construction using the United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED)<sup>TM</sup> system. These green buildings are "firsts" of their kind for Indiana.
- To help reduce mercury in our environment, a collection event was held for state employees to trade-in old mercury thermometers for proper recycling and to receive a digital one in exchange.
- Increased promotion of alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles, such as bicycling and local bus-riding options, took place during the 2003 Hyperfix interstate construction project, which impacted street traffic near the Indiana Government Center.

The report is available at [www.IN.gov/greening/GtGReport2001-2003.pdf](http://www.IN.gov/greening/GtGReport2001-2003.pdf). We've come a long way and others are taking notice. Our goal is to involve every state employee in Greening efforts. We appreciate all that you do and ask you to continue to promote Greening programs within your agencies, both by your words and through your personal actions. Working together, state employees are making a difference!

If you have questions, please contact Janet Fox, Greening Program Director, at 317-232-7658 ([jfox@idoa.IN.gov](mailto:jfox@idoa.IN.gov)) or Paula Smith, Greening Taskforce Co-Chair, at 317-233-1210 ([psmith@dem.state.in.us](mailto:psmith@dem.state.in.us)). Thank you, and please keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Chuck Martindale, Commissioner  
Indiana Department of Administration

Lori F. Kaplan, Commissioner  
Indiana Department of Environmental Management